

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Mario Bergeron

Atty. Docket No.: 055189-0016

Serial No.: 10/564,735

Group Art Unit:

Filed: January 19, 2006

Examiner:

Title: A PROCESS FOR RECOVERING PLATINUM GROUP METALS FROM ORES  
AND CONCENTRATES

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a PTO/SB/08 form is a listing of the documents known to applicant in order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Copies of the listed documents (except for U.S. patents and patent application publications) are also being submitted herewith to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98.

The documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of a national application or of the date of entry of the national stage in an international application or after said 3 months but before the issuance of a first Office Action.

Certain documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited in the International Search Report of the corresponding PCT Application, a copy of the International Search Report being annexed to the present Information Disclosure Statement.

Statement of Relevancy: For each non-English language document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 which is not cited on the foreign search reports, there is provided either (1) an English translation of the document or relevant portion(s) thereof or (2) a concise explanation, hereinbelow, of the relevance of the document.

Kanari This reference was cited at paragraph [0019] of the present application. Bibliographic study on the formation of gaseous chlorides showing that some chloride compounds containing aluminum or iron are transported at temperatures where their partial vapor pressure is near zero.

Pascal This reference was cited at paragraph [0060] of the present application. It shows that the addition of NaCl to PGM species produces PGM chloride salts which are highly soluble in water or diluted hydrochloric acid.

The submission of any document which is not a statutory bar is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

July 27, 2006  
Date

Charles L. Teck  
Registration No. \* 50,343

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	3
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	January 19, 2006
First Named Inventor	Mario Bergeron
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	055189-0016

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	B1	CA 2,303,046	03-18-1999	Adalbert, AT		
	B2	CA 2,314,581	01-27-2001	Craig, Deborah Carol		
	B3	CA 2,193,783	06-23-1998	Lalancette, Jean-Marc		
	B4	WO 2004/070066 A1	08-19-2004	Bergeron, Mario		
	B5	WO 1997/46724	12-11-1997	Lalancette, Jean-Marc		
	B6	WO 2002/053788	07-11-2002	Lalancette, Jean-Marc		

**Examiner  
Signature**

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet 2

of 3

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		Country Code <sup>3</sup> *Number <sup>4</sup> *Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	B7	South African 96-2382	03-26-1996	Lalancette, Jean-Marc		
	B8	JP 1234531	09-19-1989	Shoji, Toru		

**Examiner  
Signature**

Date  
Considered

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Sheet 3 of 3

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	C1	COOPER et al., J. Chem. Metal Min. Soc. S.A. (1929) 220-230	
	C2	KANARI, Ph.D. thèse L'Institut national polytechnique de Lorraine (1995)	
	C3	KIM et al., Ind. Eng. Chem. Res. 39, (2000) 1185-1192	
	C4	PASCAL, Masson et Cie, Nouveau traité de chimie minérale, Vol. 19, (1958): 949	
	C5	RHEE et al., Metallurgical Transactions B, Vol. 21B (1990): 321-330	
	C6	RIVAROLA et al., Lat. am.J.chem. eng. appl. chem. (1981) 11:47-52	
	C7	VERMAAK, Mintek (1995) First edition: 85-91	
	C8	ZHAO et al., Metallurgical Transactions B. Vol. 21B (1990): 131-133	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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